appreciable extent. Statistics for 1101 show that, of the 1,280 societies working at the end of 1101, as many as 1,061 were agricultural credit societies; moreover, loans for the redemption of prior debts formed more than a quarter of the loans issued during the year, and large amounts were disbursed, besides, for agricultural objects such as cultivation expenses, purchase of cattle, permanent improvements to land, etc. There is also nothing to prevent co-operative societies granting loans for longer periods than at present by suitable modifications in the bye-laws.

(3) The Government understand that a few Land Mortgage Banks have been established in the Punjab and in the Madras Presidency.

(4) A deputation from the Travancore Co-operative Union, Ltd., No. 777, which included the member, was received by the Dewan on the 6th June 1927, on the question of establishing a Land Mortgage Bank in this State. The deputation was not able to convince the Government that the existing agencies working in the field of co-operation were unable to function in the directions aimed at by the promoters of the scheme and has been asked to explore the possibility of avoiding duplication of machinery and to approach the Government later on, if necessary, with fuller data for the reconsideration of the question.

Increase of Pay to Police Constables.

33. **MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*):

(1) Are the Government aware that the brunt of the police work is borne more by the constabulary than by others in the Police Department?

(2) Will the Government be pleased to state the pay drawn by the constables in the Madras Presidency as well as that drawn by those in the sister State of Cochin?

(3) Is it a fact that most constables resort to illegal gratification?

(4) Will the Government be pleased to consider the question of raising the pay of the constables to the level of that which is now being drawn in the Madras Presidency or Cochin?

MR. K. GEORGE (*Chief Secretary to Government*): (1) In certain situations, the brunt of the work will fall upon individual constables until such time as their superior officers are able to take over the responsibility. The work of constables is, however, largely mechanical and as a general rule they do not bear the brunt of decisive action.

(2) The latest figures available here show that the minimum pay of a constable in the Madras Presidency is Rs. 16½ while in the State of Cochin the minimum pay of a constable is Rs.12; the maximum is Rs. 15 and the average is Rs. 12½.

(3) The Government have no information.

(4) The question is being examined.

Increase of Pay to Anchal Delivery Peons.

34. **MR. S. PIRAVIPERUMAL PILLAI** (*Commerce and Industry, South*):

(*a*) Are the Government aware that the work of the delivery

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly